



SENIORS FOR SOCIAL ACTION (ONTARIO)

INFORMATION BULLETIN

LETTER TEMPLATE FOR CANDIDATES IN THE MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL ELECTIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN ONTARIO

October 1, 2026

Please feel free to use this letter template with your local candidates, kindly supplied by SSAO co-founder, Linda Till.

If you go to your town or county websites there should be a list of candidates running for the 2026 municipal election in your areas along with their contact information.

Letter or E-mail to candidates:

(date)

Dear _____ (name of candidate in your area and region)

As someone seeking to be elected in the upcoming 2026 Municipal Election, I am seeking your support on an issue of great importance to communities you hope to represent. You are no doubt aware of the increasing number of people who are aging in our society, and you are also likely aware of the intensely and consistently stated preference of those who are elderly and/or disabled to have the opportunity to 'Age-in-Place' and not be subject to the extremely dehumanizing realities of institutionalization in Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities as they currently exist in this province.

As a member of Seniors for Social Action Ontario, it is important to me to encourage the development of alternatives to these settings in order to ensure that people whose needs increase as they age or experience disabilities can continue to live in supportive settings within their own communities. We all deserve to continue to experience lives that allow for meaningful engagement within those communities. LTC Facilities simply do not provide these humanizing opportunities.

Seniors for Social Action Ontario (SSAO) www.seniorsactionontario.com/ is a highly respected seniors organization that has an extensive database of well-documented editorial, advocacy, research and policy material that details alternatives that could replace expansion of an outdated model of LTC facilities.

As is outlined here, there is considerable funding available for innovation from Build Canada Homes, a federal Crown Corporation <https://www.bch-mc.ca/> and <https://chra-achru.ca/build-canada-homes/>.

Here is an SSAO Discussion Paper, outlining a highly detailed proposal for small homes that can and should be initiated within our communities. <https://us.list-manage.com/b8L0R7ESndG?e=12bea04be3&c2id=6fe9fe3715f1ca4c7bc0fdc9ccb9c47a>

Here is an example of a community in Halton that has taken these concepts to heart and initiated an assisted living residence with a built-in PACE Wellness Hub included:

Scroll down to 265 Kerr Street in Oakville's site: <https://www.halton.ca/for-residents/infrastructure-and-growth/housing-projects>

And here is the description of the PACE (Program of All Inclusive Care of the Elderly) Community Wellness Hub that is built in this assisted living housing initiative <https://www.burlingtonoht.ca/community-wellness-hub/>

An SSAO Information Bulletin, outlining an innovative development for elders in Thunder Bay, and substantial finding support for such initiatives is found here: <https://1drv.ms/b/c/b47cd375960b2089/IQAm7pJJtcUKSKnouNcGTUZfAbxpP7KxLyHkWrbv4qX6SAs>

If Burlington, Thunder Bay, Oakville, and Halton Region can do it, so can our towns, cities and regions.

I urge you to explore ways in which you could improve the residential supports made available in our community for elders living with frailty and young individuals living with a disability. Please review this material, and explore the many options provided by SSAO that could be considered.

We are all aging. Many of us will experience a disabling condition for which we require support to function. Everyone in these circumstances deserves the opportunity to have those needs met in ways that enable meaningful life-long involvement in our own communities. We all equally deserve the opportunity to

not be forced into LTC institutions because no other alternatives exist for our support.

You have the opportunity to provide encouragement and leadership within the community in which we all reside, and which you hope to represent. If elected, I truly hope you will make this issue a priority during your tenure.

I look forward to a response to this letter, in order that I may know your thoughts on this matter, and subsequently vote in the upcoming election in ways that will increase the likelihood of these important developments within our communities.

Sincerely,

_____ (your name and address)